

DOCKET NO. 2002.01.035.WTO
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/998,385
PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were originally filed in the present application.

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 13 and 14 were rejected in the June 21, 2005 Office Action.

Claims 3 - 6, 9 - 12, 15 - 18 were objected to in the June 21, 2005 Office Action.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1, 4-7, 10-13 and 16-18 are amended herein

Claims 3, 9 and 15 are cancelled herein.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-14 and 16-18 remain in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

In Section 4 of the Office Action mailed June 21, 2005, the Examiner indicated that Claims 3-6, 9-12 and 15-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. In response, the Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 7 and 13 to recite the limitations previously recited in dependent Claims 3, 9 and 15, respectively. Claims 4-6, 10-12 and 16-18 have been amended accordingly to correct their dependencies. As a result, the Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

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SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of pending claims and that this Application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at jmockler@davismunck.com.

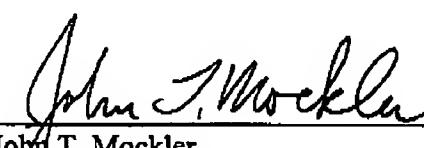
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: 22 August 2005

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